

GLOBAL LOAD BALANCING ACROSS MIRRORED DATA CENTERS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 The invention is an intelligent traffic redirection system that does global load
balancing. It can be used in any situation where an end-user requires access to a replicated
resource. The method directs end-users to the appropriate replica so that the route to the
replica is good from a network standpoint and the replica is not overloaded. The technique
preferably uses a Domain Name Service (DNS) to provide IP addresses for the appropriate
10 replica. The most common use is to direct traffic to a mirrored web site.